THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments are urged from time to time to expedite implementation of various schemes formulated by the Government of India for the development of the handloom sector and for the welfare of handloom weavers. A new scheme for setting up 3000 Handloom Development Centres and 500 Quality Dyeing Units has also been launched from the current year, besides other ongoing schemes.

Co-operative Cotton Yarn Mills in Gujarat

185. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Cooperative cotton yarn mills in Gujarat;

(b) whether these mills are capable of meeting the demands of handloom and powerloom industries;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up new cotton yarn mills in the Cooperative Sector; and

(d) if so, the number and location of the new mills proposed to be set up during 1994-95 and the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As on 31.3.93, there were *4* cooperative spinning mills (cotton/man-made fibre textile mills) in Gujarat.

(b) Demands of yarn of handloom and powerloom sectors are met out of the production of all the spinning mills in the country whether in the Private, Public and Cooperative Sector.

(c) and (d) The Government on its own, does not set up any new cotton yarn mill in the cooperative sector. However, as per information made available by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), there are proposals to set up 40 cooperative spinning mills in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan period. The tentative State-wise break-up is as under:—

Andhra Pradesh-4, Maharashtra-8, Haryana-2, Rajasthan-2, Karnataka-4, Tamil Nadu-2, U.P.-1, Kerala-2, Assam-2, Orissa-2, Bihar-1, Tripura-1, M.P.-4, Punjab-2, West Bengal-1, Gujarat-2.

Impact of Yarn Price hike on Handloom Weavers

186. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY:
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRI G.G. SWELL:
SHRI SARDA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rise in yarn prices has adversely affected Handloom Weavers and rendered more than 10 lakh weavers jobless; if so, details thereof; state-wise;

(b) what is the price of cotton of popular and high cost variety at present and to what extent the price rise is reflected in cotton yarn;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mills are not bringing down yarn prices despite the fall in cotton prices due to ban on export;

(d) whether is a fact that the traders are resisting the fall in cotton yarn prices; and

(e) whether Government are encouraging the blending of man-made fibre and yarn with cotton and cotton yarn; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The prices of yarn including hank yarn have reigstered increase during last few months affecting